

The BROAD AX

HEW TO THE LINE.

VOL. I.

SALT LAKE CITY, UTAH, NOVEMBER 16, 1895.

No. 12.

THE DREADED LYNCH LAW.

THE public mind is kept constantly agitated over the horrible scenes of lynch law, which are of such frequent occurrence all over the United States, and which are a blot and a disgrace to any community. It is also true, that just about election time, the Republican press teems with blood-curdling accounts of Southern outrages upon the poor colored people of that section, many of which are true, but a great number are exaggerated, colored up and actually manufactured for campaign purposes. We deprecate mob law as much as anyone; we believe, in every case, the law should be permitted to take its course; it is the only safe manner of dealing justice to the law-breaker. Whenever a community becomes seized with a frenzy to resort to mob violence, it at once becomes dangerous to all classes of people. No one is safe from a mob. The innocent are as likely to be hurled into eternity as the guilty.

We condemn lynch law under any circumstances; but we assert that it is not less wrong when perpetrated upon a white man in a Northern State than when it is resorted to by a Southern community upon a Negro rapist or murderer. The wrong to the law and to society is the same in both cases. While it may be true, that they are a little more frequent in the South than in the North, yet there is a natural reason for it.

Civil war is demoralizing to any community, and the South was the battleground for the late rebellion, and as a consequence society there received a greater shock than in the North. It is true, also, that the sudden freedom conferred upon the slaves of the South, and investing them with all the civil and legal rights of the whites, while they were in an ignorant condition, tended largely toward inviting them to become criminals, and cause them to become the objects of dislike with the law-abiding people; hence it is not to be wondered at, that mobs should seek to regulate the peace and order of the community.

Mobstake place in all communities to some extent, as the statistics show, there being 190 lynchings in the whole United States for the year 1894, extending over almost all the states and territories, showing a decrease in number from prior years. *The Chicago Tribune* of Jan. 1st, 1895, which is before us, has a compiled list of all persons lynched for the preceding year,

with a statement of the number for each year since 1885. This compilation shows that under President Cleveland's first term of four years, there were 586 persons lynched in the United States; while under President Harrison's administration there were 730 persons lynched; 235 unfortunate victims being in the list in the last year of Harrison's term. Under Cleveland's present term they are decreasing, especially in the South, as these figures show. We hail with delight any improvement in this regard. As the negroes of the South become more intelligent, they will become less criminal and will be more law-abiding.

Another fact we will just speak of in passing, that is, that a large number of cases of mob violence inflicted upon negroes in the South, it was perpetrated by the negroes themselves, thus showing that it is not always the result of race prejudice. The old charge by the Republican papers, that the Democrats are responsible for so many colored people being mobbed in the South, is only a campaign cry, to induce the race to hate and fear their white brethren, and try to make them believe that the Republican party is their only friend. The figures in the *Chicago Tribune*, show that the Democrats have been more vigilant in protecting the negro from mobs than the Republicans.

WE YET HAVE FRIENDS.

THE BROAD AX is enabled to announce this week, that our prospects are growing brighter every day. A great many persons have predicted that we would suspend after the election; and that the BROAD AX was only a campaign venture, but from the encouragement received during the last few days, we feel justified in saying, "we are here to stay." Besides many kind words and substantial help from Salt Lake City, we have received the support and backing of a number of prominent citizens of Ogden city, among whom we desire to mention the following:

Hon. H. H. Spencer, Judge H. H. Rolapp, Hon. David Evans, Judge Thomas D. Dee, M. S. Browning, Joseph Wallace, John A. Boyle, D. H. Peery, A. J. Weber, H. W. Williams, J. D. Sullivan, Howard Carpenter, John Tyler, Postmaster Islaub, Hon. Thomas Maloney, J. P. Lederidge, H. H. Henderson, Col. W. L. P. Peyton and many others.

These gentlemen appreciate the

good work now being done by our little paper, and show their faith by their works. If others in Salt Lake City, and elsewhere in Utah, will give us just a small amount of aid, we will be able to maintain a live, crisp newspaper, which will accomplish a work for the cause of true Democratic principles that cannot be reached as effectively by any other medium. Read our appeal in another column and make an effort to do something to help along the cause. If all our friends would only speak a kind word to their friends and neighbors in our behalf it would do us much good. We ask you to emulate the example of these noble gentlemen of Ogden, and then the success of the BROAD Bx is assured.

TRIBUTE TO COLOR.

"ALBANY, N. Y., Nov. 8.—James C. Matthews, colored, recorder of deeds in Washington in President Cleveland's first administration, has been elected judge of the recorder's court of this city which office carries with it powers of supreme court judge. His majority is over 2,000. He was nominated and elected on the regular Democratic ticket. It is the highest judicial office ever held by a man of his race in this country."

The above, taken from the press dispatches, is another illustration of the truth of what the BROAD AX has maintained all along. Such an occurrence is a pleasing incident to the colored people everywhere; it shows that race prejudice is disappearing. It also shows the liberality of spirit on the part of the Democrats; such a thing as the election of a colored man for judge, has never happened in any Republican district in the whole United States.

Have we not always said that the Democrats were the best and truest friends of the colored people?

How long will it take to convince the negro, that his interests demand that he cut loose from the old false notions of the past?

TO OUR READERS AND FRIENDS.

THE BROAD AX desires to state the case plainly and truthfully, to our friends and the public generally. We began the publication of the BROAD AX last August, in the interest of true Democratic principles, and for the success of the immortal party of Jefferson and Jackson. We were compelled to rely upon an appreciative public for our support. During the past campaign we have distributed thousands of copies free all over

Utah. We have sent our paper free to every colored man in Salt Lake City, and the effect has been of benefit to the party, as seen by the large Democratic vote of the colored men. While, during the campaign, we made an especial effort to reach the colored voters, yet we claim to publish a paper that has had its influence with all the people, and has been read and approved by all classes. We have come here among you to stay, and if the people of Utah will give us the support we think we deserve, we will improve the BROAD AX in every particular, and continue to advance the cause of Democracy, and the interests of Utah.

We therefore appeal to the generosity and judgment of this people, to give us a share of your patronage. We believe the people of Utah are as just, honest and wide awake people as can be found in this country, and we, therefore, feel that they will still continue to aid us in this good cause. Let us have your subscription for one year, or at least for six months. Let us advertise your business, and thereby help us and at the same time help yourselves. Use the columns of our paper for the expression of your individual opinions upon any public question. Help to get us readers, and give us your encouragement, and we will give you a bright, lively up-to-date newspaper. So far, we have had to rely on our own limited means and a few donations from kind friends, who have nobly stood by us in this struggle, and for whom we shall always cherish the kindest recollections.

We propose now to sustain the BROAD AX on business principles and by business methods.

Will every reader of this number try to help us in some way to sustain this paper? If it is ever so small, do something for the BROAD AX, and we will soon be on a solid basis. We propose to enlarge the paper, and add several new features which will be pleasing to all. Give us your helping hand, friends, and we will give you a good paper.

JULIUS F. TAYLOR,
Editor.

THE Republicans of Utah say they don't care to jubilate over their recent victory. What is the matter? Are they ashamed of the manner by which they succeeded? It may be that they think a public demonstration is not in good form over a church election. *Selah.*